

December 21, 2006

SCHAKOWSKY SPEAKS OUT AGAINST COMMENTS OF CONGRESSMAN GOODE

"BIGOTRY AND EXCLUSION HAVE NO PLACE IN THE U.S. CONGRESS"

CHICAGO, IL-U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), a Chief Deputy Democratic Whip, today released a statement in response to recent comments made by Congressman Goode (R-VA) that suggested only those who worship using the Bible should be allowed in this country and the Congress. □

Schakowsky's full statement follows: □

"I have the honor of representing the 9th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives, a diverse district that includes families of many faiths, ethnicities and races. □ Rep. Virgil Goode's comments are an insult to my constituents, Muslim and non-Muslim alike, who believe that America's strength is its diversity, tolerance and respect for democratic traditions.□ □

"The politics of bigotry and exclusion have no place in the U.S. Congress.□ At this time of year, when so many faiths are celebrating their traditions of peace and goodwill towards others, it is shocking that an elected official would voice these views.□ I hope that President Bush and the leaders of both parties will be vocal and clear in denouncing these hateful statements."